REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action

Claims 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Seaholtz et al (5,920,821). Claims 3-5 and 7-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seaholtz in view of Chern (US 2003/0060211). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seaholtz in view of Chern and further in view of Murray (US 2002/0068583).

Claims 17-22 remain pending in this application. Claims 1-16 have been canceled. Claims 17-22 have been added. Support for the new claims may be found, for example, on page 2, lines 11-33, on page 3, lines 1-8, on page 6, lines 9-19, on page 6, lines 23-33, on page 7, lines 1-33, and on page 8, lines 1-25.

Claims 17-22 Are Patentably Distinguishable Over The Cited Art

With the present invention, a mobile terminal location is monitored and used to locate providers of the specific service requested that are proximate to but not necessarily the nearest to the location of the mobile terminal. When a group of service providers are identified, one of the group of providers located can be selected and identified by name and/or telephone number, and/or location, etc., and this information is delivered to the mobile terminal for use by the subscriber. The location-based directory numbers and, if desired, names of providers of a type of service selected by the subscriber are downloaded to the terminal, and the terminal then stores the obtained numbers and names as part of an address book. When the mobile terminal user wants to make a call to one of the obtained numbers in the address book, it is retrieved and presented to the user who then does a click to make the call. The process of obtaining fresh directory numbers and names is repeated as the mobile terminal travels to a new geographical location and the new information is substituted for the old information whenever the old information becomes invalid. The customer service information can represent any category of service desired such as, for example, a specific hotel of a chain, a restaurant, emergency facilities (especially in a foreign country) such as a hospital, police, etc.

Thus, new claim 17 (and claim 20) provides for a method of providing location-

based directory numbers for personalized services for a wireless subscriber having a mobile terminal. The method includes the steps of (a) receiving a user profile for the mobile terminal from the subscriber at a user profile server, wherein the user profile includes a local directory number for at least one service that is dependent on the location of the mobile terminal; (b) storing the user profile at the user profile server, wherein the user profile server is in communication with an application server; and (c) instructing a home location register to set an event notification flag to notify the application server whenever the mobile terminal changes location. The method further includes (d) receiving a notification from the home location register that the location of the mobile terminal has changed; (e) automatically updating the local directory number for each service in the subscriber profile whenever the mobile terminal changes location; and (f) forwarding at least one of the updated local directory numbers to the mobile terminal for use by the subscriber.

This method is not disclosed in the cited references. For example, Seaholtz et al provides for a method of controlling analog cellular voice telephone systems and associated subscriber stations associated to conserve power and to provide alternate service carriers. Acquisition of all of the service carriers is facilitated through the use of system identification numbers (SIDs) associated with each service carrier. A roaming subscriber tune to a cellular digital packet data (CDPD) frequency to obtain a list of service carriers operating within that geographical area. Based upon a comparison with a preferred SID list stored in the subscriber station, an available service carrier will be selected by the subscriber station, and registration with the selected service carrier will take place. However, Seaholtz, for example, does not disclose receiving and storing a user profile from the subscriber, where the user profile includes local directory numbers for various services, instructing the HLR to set an event notification flag every time the mobile terminal changes location, updating the user profile when the mobile terminal changes location, or downloading the updated local directory numbers to the mobile terminal for later use by the subscriber. Seaholz relates solely to wireless carriers, as opposed to services such as rental car companies.

Chern fails to overcome these deficiencies. Chern discloses a wireless location-based information-retrieval system includes a wireless communication device. The wireless device has a transceiver for sending and receiving communications across a wireless communication network, a position-determination

device for determining the location of the wireless device, and an Internet browser. A remote server communicates with the wireless device. The server receives the location data from the wireless device over the network and maintains a web page listing information service options. The information service options are accessible to and selectable by the wireless device via the browser. The server retrieves information from a database based on the location data provided by the wireless device and on the selected service option. The retrieved information is sent to the wireless device over the network. However, Chern, for example, does not disclose receiving and storing a user profile from the subscriber, where the user profile includes local directory numbers for various services, instructing the HLR to set an event notification flag every time the mobile terminal changes location, updating the user profile when the mobile terminal changes location, or downloading the updated local directory numbers to the mobile terminal for later use by the subscriber.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is respectfully submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 17-22) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby authorized to telephone John S. Zanghi, at (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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12/28/06
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